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SUBJECT: MGLB01: LEBANON MONITORING GROUP SITUATION  
REPORT NO. 25

CLASSIFIED BY: DMURRAY, SENIOR WATCH OFFICER,  
S/ES-O, REASON 1.4 (B) AND (D)

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CODEL RAHALL TRAVELS TO BEIRUT  
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¶1. (C) CODEL Rahall (D-WV) plans to attend parliamentary events in Beirut May 25 and expects to meet with LAF General Sleiman. Other delegation members include Darrell Issa (R-CA), Ray Lahood (R-IL), Charles Melancon (D-LA), John Linder (R-GA), and Jack Kingston (R-GA). (Ops/H e-mail)

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BERRI DISMISSES SYRIAN PARTICIPATION IN MAY 25 EVENTS  
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¶2. (C) In a meeting with Charg Sison, Speaker Berri confirmed no Syrian officials were invited to attend the vote or official events May 25. Lebanese reluctance to invite Arab officials from capitals other than Doha stirred resentment among regional players, including Saudi Arabia. The Lebanese media covered the meeting, highlighting both USG appreciation for Berri's efforts and the call for Lebanese leaders to implement the Doha agreement. (Ops/Embassy Beirut e-mail and telcon, Beirut 757)

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ADDITIONAL SESSION OF PARLIAMENT SCHEDULED ON DISTRICTING  
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¶3. (SBU) Speaker Berri scheduled an additional legislative session May 25 to redraw electoral districts. The revised law will be sent to the Administration and Justice Parliamentary Committee to enact amendments agreed upon in Doha. (Ops/Embassy Beirut telcon)

¶4. (U) Minimize considered.

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